



Fire Management Assistance Grant Program

Emergency Management Division
Washington Military Department

Purpose

The federally funded Fire Management Assistance Grant Program (FMAGP) provides financial assistance to state, local, and tribal governments for the mitigation, management, and control of fires, when a threat of a major disaster exists. This assistance applies to fires on publicly or privately owned forests or grasslands and may include reimbursement for equipment, supplies and personnel.

Background

The FMAGP replaced the Fire Suppression Program on October 30, 2001. Prior to this date, fire suppression assistance had significantly reduced the damage and impact experienced by the state's citizens following a forest or grassland fire. The state has received partial reimbursement for ten fires since 1988. Fire suppression costs provided full reimbursement for the fires in Chelan County of 1994. In the past ten years, the state has received over \$32 million in federal funds for fire suppression. The FMAGP provides financial assistance to a broader applicant base than previously covered by the Fire Suppression Program.

Fire management assistance regulations are found in 44 CFR 204.

Benefits

Under a federal fire management assistance declaration, the state, local and tribal governments are reimbursed for a percentage of their costs for labor, equipment, supplies, mobilization, demobilization, and state costs incurred under the State Fire Resources Mobilization Plan.

Timing of a state request for declaration of need to the Federal Emergency Management Agency is critical. A request can be made only when the fire threatens to destroy a large number of primary residence homes, businesses, or a combination of homes and businesses, and/or when a fire will seriously damage or destroy public facilities, which would significantly impact the residents of the area.

Contact

For more information, please contact Donna Voss, Public Assistance Administrator, at (253) 512-7078, or e-mail d.voss@emd.wa.gov.